

CLAIMS

1. A selective narrative data base and system, comprising:

(a) means for providing access to a common carrier,
said common carrier adapted to transmit a file of audio
signals from a first location to a second location;

(b) a server connected to said common carrier at said
first location;

(c) a data base connected to said server, said data
base including said file of audio signals and wherein
said file of audio signals is sufficient to encode a
narrative; and

(d) means for transmitting said file of audio signals
through said common carrier to a user disposed at said
second location.

2. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1
wherein said common carrier includes a telephone line.

3. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 wherein said common carrier includes an Internet.

4. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 wherein said data base includes a plurality of said files, each of said plurality of files including a compilation of audio signals sufficient to encode a different narrative.

5. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 wherein said file includes a short story.

6. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 wherein said means for transmitting said file of audio signals through said common carrier to a user disposed at said second location includes means for providing said user with said file in real time.

7. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 wherein said means for transmitting said file of audio signals through said common carrier to a user disposed at said second location includes means for providing said user

with said file in a compressed format that requires less time than is required to listen to said narrative.

8. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 including means for subscribing wherein authorization to obtain access to said file is denied to said user until said user has complied with said means for subscribing.

9. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 8 wherein said means for subscribing includes a monthly subscription.

10 The selective narrative data base and system of claim 8 wherein said means for subscribing includes a subscription for a time interval that is other than monthly.

11. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 8 wherein said means for subscribing includes paying for each access to said system.

12. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 8 wherein said means for subscribing includes means for paying for the amount of time said access to said system is provided.

13. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 12 wherein said means for paying includes providing access via a telephone number that includes a charge that is made for each unit of elapsed time and wherein the elapsed time accrues whenever said user is connected to said server.

14. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 1 including means for receiving said file of audio signals at said second location.

15. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 14 wherein said means for receiving includes a transceiver.

16. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 15 wherein said transceiver is adapted to transmit said file of audio signals to a third location.

17. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 16 wherein said third location includes means for receiving said transmitted file of audio signals said transceiver and including means for converting said transmitted file into a format adapted for listening to said narrative.

18. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 17 wherein said third location is disposed in a figurine.

19. The selective narrative data base and system of claim 18 wherein said figurine includes a stuffed figurine.

20. A method of providing a selective narrative data base and system, comprising the steps:

(a) providing access over a common carrier;

(b) providing a server connected to said common carrier;

(c) providing a data base that is connected to said server, said data base including a plurality of files of audio signals sufficient to encode a narrative;

(d) providing means for selecting a particular file of audio signals by a user from said plurality of files;
and

(e) transmitting said particular file of audio signals to said user using said common carrier.